

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: **Verhoest et al.**
Serial No.: **09/781,861**
Filed: **02/12/2001**
TITLE: **COMPACT PRINTING APPARATUS AND METHOD**

Docket No.: **AGFA1-3159**
Group Art Unit: **2854**
Examiner: **Eickholt, E.**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

#10/Election
7-2-03
L. Spruell
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RESTRICTION ELECTION

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed May 22, 2003, Applicants hereby elect Species B, Fig. 2, corresponding to claim 6. Claims 2, 4, 8, and 10 are generic.

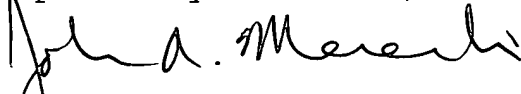
Regarding the Restriction Requirement, it is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims 1-10 is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one of the claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803, in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of the entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it

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on the merits" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply to the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicant and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

If the Examiner believes that any further discussion of the invention would be helpful, perhaps in the form of an Examiner's Amendment, Applicants' representative is available at (518) 449-0044, and earnestly solicits such discussion.

Respectfully submitted,


By: John A. Merecki
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Date: 6/24/03

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